

Message Text

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14

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SSM-05

SCCT-01 OPR-02 A-01 /094 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:EOJONES:RGH

APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

EUR/P - MR. JERABEK

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

SSM - MR. MC ANDREW

NEA/ARP - MR. DICKMAN

AF/P - MR. POPE

NEA - MS. GRIFFIN

----- 111713

O 222209Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
USMISSION SINAI
USCINCEUR

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GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL, CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - JULY 22

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR JULY 22,
1976:

Q. DOES THE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY MORE INFORMATION ON WHO
EXACTLY KILLED AMBASSADOR MELOY AND MR. WARING?

A. NO, WE DO NOT. WE ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING MORE INFORMA-
TION, BUT WE REALLY HAVE NOTHING MORE TO OFFER AT THIS
TIME THAN WHAT LITTLE HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RECENT WEEKS.

Q. ALSO ON LEBANON, HAS ANY NEW DECISION BEEN MADE ON THE
EVACUATION?

A. NO, THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE FROM WHAT BOB FUNSETH
SAID YESTERDAY AT THIS BRIEFING. WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH
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WITH VARIOUS QUARTERS ABOUT THE SITUATION IN LEBANON, AND,
AS BOB MENTIONED YESTERDAY, THE EVACUATION IS STILL
POSTPONED ON THE GROUNDS OF THE GENERAL SECURITY SITUATION.

WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO WORK THINGS OUT AND WILL PROCEED WITH
THE EVACUATION WHEN IT CAN BE SAFELY CARRIED OUT.

Q. AGAIN ON THE MELOY QUESTION, IT SEEMS TO ME I SAW A REPORT ABOUT A WEEK AGO TO THE EFFECT THAT THE PLO HAD RELEASED WHOMEVER IT WAS THEY ARRESTED. DO YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION?

A. I DO NOT HAVE ANY CONFIRMATION OF THAT, NOR DO I HAVE ANY CONFIRMATION OF THE NEWS REPORT THIS MORNING REGARDING THE NUMBER 2 IN THE PLO BEING RESPONSIBLE. WE SIMPLY HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF THAT. WE HAVE SEEN THE REPORT. I THINK THAT IS A FAIRLY OLD REPORT ACTUALLY.

Q. WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THESE PEOPLE WHO ARE SUPPOSED TO BE EVACUATED? ARE THEY ALL GATHERED SOMEWHERE, OR ARE THEY STILL SCATTERED WHEREVER THEY WERE SCATTERED BEFORE?

A. THERE IS A RALLY POINT. I THINK IT IS THE RIVIERA HOTEL. I PRESUME THAT SOME OF THEM WOULD BE STAYING THERE WAITING, OR GOING BACK TO THEIR OWN HOMES IF THEY ARE SECURE.

THERE ARE SEVERAL HUNDRED PEOPLE NOW WHO HAVE SIGNED UP, AND I SUPPOSE SOME OF THEM DO GO HOME AT NIGHT AND KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE EMBASSY REGARDING WHEN THE EVACUATION WILL ACTUALLY BE CARRIED OUT.

Q. IS THAT NUMBER HIGHER THAN IT WAS, THE 403?

A. IT IS THE SAME NUMBER. I HAVE NO CHANGE, NO.

Q. NO MORE SIGNED UP?

A. IF YOU WOULD LIKE, I CAN GET YOU AN UPDATE ON THE UNCLASSIFIED

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LATEST SIGN-UP FIGURE. I WILL GET THAT FOR YOU.

Q. THANK YOU.

Q. DOES THE DEPARTMENT KNOW WHO KILLED AMBASSADOR DAVIES ON CYPRUS?

A. AS FAR AS I KNOW, IT DOES NOT.

Q. DOES ANYBODY IN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT KNOW?

A. I DO NOT KNOW WHAT EVERYBODY IN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT KNOWS, BUT TO MY KNOWLEDGE WE DO NOT KNOW. ROBINSON

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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